



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0905

BILL NELSON
FLORIDA

February 21, 2006

Senator Ted Stevens, Chairman
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Daniel K. Inouye, Ranking Member
508 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Sens. Stevens and Inouye:

I am writing to express my concern over the nomination of David Sanborn to be director of the Maritime Administration (MARAD). In this capacity, he will have oversight of his employer, which raises questions about conflict of interest.

At the time of his confirmation hearing on Feb. 7, the pending DP World deal had not been made public. Given this new information and the national security questions that transaction raises, the committee should hold further hearings to examine Mr. Sanborn leading MARAD.

Apart from my concerns about the DP World transaction, I plan to oppose his nomination in the committee, and I will put a hold on his nomination should it be brought to the floor – if additional hearings are not held.

Sincerely,

Bill Nelson